



## Southwest Area Incident Management Team

**For Immediate Release**  
**Navajo Mountain #1 Fire**

**Release #3**  
**June 16, 2006**

Firefighters made good progress while taking advantage of Thursday's cloud cover, cooler temperatures and lighter winds. Crews continued to strengthen contingency lines around the perimeter and directly attacked the fire in several places, including the Cha Canyon area.

Near the communications site, firefighters strengthened the lines, dealt with spot fires outside the line, and constructed a checkline along a ridgetop to the west. Hot Shots constructed line down the mountain, roughly paralleling the powerline that supplies the communications site. Today, firefighters will scout the southern flank and look for opportunities to directly attack the fire.

Because of the moderate weather and winds, firefighters did not have to burn out the contingency line between Rainbow City and the fire's northeast finger. "We were prepared to burn out, but the fire never came up out of the canyon," said Deputy Incident Commander Paul Summerfelt. The fire is not predicted to be as active today as it was earlier in the week, but smoke will still be visible throughout the area.

Six firefighters from the New York City Fire Department are on hand to gain experience with the Incident Command System and wildland firefighting organizations. They join two others who are officially attached to the Southwest Incident Management Team. "After 9-11, our team was called to support operations at the World Trade Center site and our cooperative work with FDNY is a direct result," said Incident Commander Trainee Jerome MacDonald.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for FDNY to learn how to manage large scale, long-term incidents and to top it off we're working in a beautiful place. It's an honor to be here helping the Navajo Nation," said Mark Stone, a New York City fireman who works in the Logistics Section for the Southwest Team.

**For more information, call Navajo Mountain Fire Information (toll free)**  
**1-866-525-8173 or 1-866-525-8174**

E-mail: [oltroggeswimt@yahoo.com](mailto:oltroggeswimt@yahoo.com)

For fire maps, visit <http://www.fireteam-sw.com/oltrogge/current.htm>

A burn ban is in place for the Navajo Nation. This includes no open flame, no burning of trash or vegetation, and smoking in buildings or vehicles only. Propane stoves are allowed.

### Fire Facts

**Acreage:** 3,000    **Contained:** 5%    **No evacuations in place or imminent**

**Total Personnel:** 445, including 8 Hot Shot Crews, 3 Type II Crews, 2 Skycranes, 13 Engines

**Cooperating and Assisting Agencies:** BIA, USFS, NPS, BLM, ST, FWS, PRI, Navajo Mountain Chapter House, Navajo Tribe Utility, Navajo Police Department, Navajo Nation Rangers, San Juan County School District, Indian Health Services, Navajo Department Of Emergency Management.

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